

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SY-05 SCCT-01 EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00

IO-11 OIC-02 COME-00 /088 W
----- 009070

P R 020630Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1165

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPAC HONOLULU

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT MORESBY 0066

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PP

SUBJECT: TENSIONS EASE ON BOUGAINVILLE

1. BOTH SECESSIONISTS AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT HAVE PULLED BACK FROM POSTURE OF CONFRONTATION AND BOUGAINVILLE HAS BEEN QUIET SINCE FRIDAY. IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT BOTH SIDES SUDDENLY REALIZED WHAT CONFRONTATION WAS LEADING TO, AND BECAME FRIGHTENED ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE.

2. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT SIR PAUL LAPUN WAS UNHARMED (CONTRARY TO REPORTS GIVEN US BY BOUGAINVILLE COPPER REP) AND IS NOW IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT HANDS.

3. TWO SOUR NOTES HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN SOUNDED. FIRST DYNAMITE AND DETONATORS HAVE BEEN STOLEN FROM THE BUIN PUBLIC WORKERS MAGAZINE, PRESUMABLY BY SECESSIONISTS. REPORTS ON AMOUNT STOLEN VARY FROM TEN TO 250 TO SEVERAL THOUSAND STICKS. SECOND, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RADIO QUOTED FATHER MOMIS AS SAYING PROTESTS ON BOUGAINVILLE

WERE SCHEDULE FOR LAST WEEK TO COINCIDE WITH ARRIVAL OF IBRD
TEAM IN PORT MORESBY IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT SITUATION IN
PNG IS UNSTABLE.

COMMENT: IF MOMIS ACTUALLY MADE THIS STATEMENT, IT WILL
EXACERBATE FEELINGS IN PORT MORESBY AS GPNG VIEWS IBRD MISSION
AS BEING VERY IMPORTANT TO FINANCIAL FUTURE OF PNG.

4. SCHEDULE, VENUE AND REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO SIDES AT TALKS
HAVE NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED.
OLMSTED

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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04 MAY 2006

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